The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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COMPANY "UNION" IS LATEST TRICK OF ANTI-UNIONISTS

Organized workers can apply a sure-shot test to the company "union," and to every other sham that they are urged to accept as a substitute for trade unionism.

Ask the company "union" advocate this question:

"Under your system can workers be represented by persons of their own choosing, and can they confer with other workers in the same industry?"

This is the test that exposed the Pennsylvania railroad's company "union." Officers of that corporation wrote the rules of this "union" and decreed that only employees could represent employes. The railroad labor board notified the corporation that its employes are the sole judge of this matter, but the railroad ignored the board's decision, which has virtually been upheld by the United States supreme court.

Collective bargaining can not function in a company "union." Bargaining is not free when one party selects his representative and then insists on selecting the other party's representative.

Wage earners can not bargain freely when they are restricted in selecting advisers by employers who will profit by such restriction.

With this additional handicap on his unorganized workers the employer arrays his economists, his publicists, his accountants, his lawyers and other skilled pleaders against men without training or experience. These employes have no disciplined organization behind them.

They have been selected largely through the subtle influence of superintendents, managers and foremen, who are also representatives of the employer in the company "union."

To avoid this inequality and blacklist, trade unionists place men on salary to represent them, and who can cope with the employers' picked men.

The employer objects to this procedure. He knows he can not intimidate the union representative by hints of layoffs or preferred positions, so he declares he will only meet his employes.

It should be clear to every worker why anti-unionists favor the company "union," which has been given the alluring title "employe representation."

Under this system the autocratic employer yields nothing. He has merely changed his tactics. He hates trade unionism because it is a challenge to his autocracy in industry.

Oh, yes, he publicly professes a high regard for trade unionism—if it is the right kind. This is the position of the Pennsylvania railroad, the harvester trust, the meat packers and other autocrats who insist on controlling the lives of their workers.

This is the kind of a "union" he forms. He calls it "employe representation." Then he prepares the rules of the hand-picked institution and decrees that it alone will be recognized by him.

With his managers, superintendents and foremen having jobs at their disposal for the "proper" kind of representation of this "union," and with a spy system reporting every worker who even hints of a bona fide trade union, the employer has his workers in control as certain as if the company "union" did not exist.

The company "union" is an outward concession to public opinion. It is a trick to keep workers from affiliating with organized labor.

As organized labor increases its power and prestige these anti-union employers will become more deft with their sleight-of-hand tricks.

They have a string attached to every privilege they profess to extend to their employes. The only logic these hard-boiled recognize is power. Workers must take from this brand of employers. When these employers give, it never fails to prove a gold brick.

The sinister purpose of "employe representation" and the company "union" can be defeated by continuous publicity. At every occasion trade unionists should hurl this challenge at company "union" advocates:

"Under your system can workers be represented by persons of their own choosing, and can they confer with other workers in the same industry?"

LOCKED OUT RAIL SHOP MEN SHOW WHAT GREED DARES

Washington, March 24.—Notwithstanding newspaper silence and railroad propaganda, more than 150,000 railroad shopmen are locked out on approximately 100 major trunk lines and short lines. These workers have been locked out since August 1, 1922.

The facts in the situation were laid before the executive council of the American Federation of Labor by representatives of the railway employes' department, and the executive council adopted a resolution requesting the cooperation of the labor press of the country that the true situation may be made known to every one.

What had been begun as a strike on July 1 was converted into a lockout on August 1 when the railroad executives repudiated their promise to the president and when the president failed to accomplish that which he had promised the shop organizations he would do.

On September 13 somewhat less than 30 per cent of the men returned to work on 137 railroads under what was known as the Willard-Jewell-Warfield agreement.

Those railroads on which work has not been resumed propose that the men return to work as individuals. In most cases the railroads also demand that the workers assume membership in various company "unions," such as that in existence on the Pennsylvania railroad.

Since the signing of the Willard-Jewell-Warfield agreement, on September 13, some notable advances have been made, but on many lines the situation is unchanged. The spirit of determination is as great as ever. The need for the solid support of the entire labor movement still exists and will continue to exist until all of the railroad workers have returned to work under satisfactory conditions.

The executive council of the A. F. of L., in its resolution on the subject, "assures the railroad shop crafts of our unstinted support and compliments them upon the effective resistance they have put in their fight for the past eight months."

COMMUNIST TRAPPED; WOULD SPLIT UNIONS

New York, March 24.—M. J. Olgin, editor of a Jewish communist newspaper, made a sorry spectacle before the district attorney when he was asked to present evidence he claimed to have that members of the Fur Workers' union risk their lives when they object to the policy of officials of that union.

To every question by the district attorney, the communist charged the communist with consorting with strike-breakers, with being a stool pigeon and with attempting to destroy trade unions.

"During the entire period of your existence as spokesman of the Left," you have played the role of a stool pigeon in every labor organization which refused to give you financial support—in other words, graft," said President Kaufman, in his letter to Olgin. "You have done it while setting the outside world the most terrible stories about these unions, ignoring the very fundamentals of labor ethics.

"You have tried to get control of our organization and you have been defeated again and again. And as a last resort you have undertaken to use a weapon that only irresponsible people would use."

Anti-Union Shop Favored By Swash Buckler Dawes

Washington, March 24.—Brigadier General Charles G. Dawes, Chicago banker and all-'round-ent-'em-alive swash buckler, wants the administration party to declare for the anti-union shop in the next presidential campaign.

A newspaper correspondent wires this story from Florida, where the presidential party is. He says Dawes and Attorney General Daugherty insist that a clear-cut declaration for the anti-union shop will gain the support of business men (and make party contributions easy). Daugherty also favors a campaign for law enforcement. His views on the subject are the same as he expressed in Federal Judge Wilkerson's court last June, when he presented an injunction that the court O. K.'d. Under that writ a person was in contempt of court if he fed a railroad striker's baby or bought food for the striker's family.

Daugherty's plea for law enforcement has no reference, of course, to violation of safety laws by railroads or to the Arkansas mob that has usurped government.

Brigadier General Dawes was formerly a member of the president's bureau of the budget and secured some newspaper notoriety by his profanity before a congressional committee.

Daugherty and Dawes may prove the comedy hit of the next campaign. With the publicity given them, they could capitalize it as the Gold Dust Twins in "big time" vaudeville.

CLERKS TO HAVE BANK.

Cincinnati, March 24.—The comptroller of currency has approved the application of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks for a national bank charter. The membership is being excited to subscribe 5 per cent of the capital stock. Fifty-one per cent, or a majority control of the bank will be held by the organization as such. The capital is to be $200,000, with a surplus paid of $50,000. A down payment of $75 on each share purchased is required and the balance may be paid in monthly installments. Stockholders' dividends will be restricted to 10 per cent; profits over that amount will be distributed among depositors.

PRESSMEN'S AIDES GAIN.

Washington, March 24.—Printing press assistants in this city have secured wage increases averaging 14 per cent, through arbitration.

The arbitrator was James Wilmeth, former director of the bureau of engraving and printing, who, together with 27 others, were recently dismissed without charges being preferred against them. Since then they have failed to ascertain the reason for their dismissal.

HOLD ALIEN LAND LAW.

Phoenix, Ariz., March 24.—The Orme bill, which would repeal the anti-alien land law, was defeated in the house. Opposition was so strong that Representative Orme, author of the bill, refused to speak in favor of it. The repeal would make it possible for Japs to own land in this state. They are now being used as strike-breakers by the Santa Fe railroad at Winslow.

INFANT MORTALITY TRACED TO LOW WAGES

Washington, March 24.—Once again the United States children's bureau declares that low earnings of the father is mainly responsible for the employment of the mother with its long train of evils to children and the home.

The bureau affirms former statements in a report on infant mortality, following its study of conditions in Baltimore.

The evidence shows that the mother's employment away from home during the infant's first year of life is detrimental to the infant's health.

The mortality rate among the babies included in the study whose mothers were employed away from home during the babies' first year of life was found to be one and one-half times the rate among babies of mothers not so employed. The evil effects of the father's low wages is indicated by this statement:

"Of the mothers in families in which the fathers earned less than $450, there were 23.2 per cent gainfully employed away from home during pregnancy, while only 1.2 per cent of the mothers in families in which the fathers' earnings were $1,250 or over were so employed at that period.

"The greater prevalence of mother's employment in the low income groups is undoubtedly a factor in the high infant mortality rate which characterizes families with low incomes."

Previous reports of the children's bureau on infant mortality have shown a definite connection between income and infant mortality. As the income increases, the infant death rate decreases. This latest study, based on a larger group than the previous studies, permits a closer analysis of the single factor of employment of mothers.

STRIKERS ARE BARRED BY STATE LEGISLATURE

Boston, March 24.—The house of representatives has rejected a bill which would have reinstated on the police force one of the policemen who quit during the strike in 1919. After the longest debate in the recent history of the house, the vote was 76 to 136 against the report of a committee's favorable report on the reinstatement of James F. Allen, who had been severely wounded, prior to the strike, in a battle with bandits.

A substitute bill, which would have authorized the police commissioner to reinstate any former members of the force whom he might deem fit, was defeated by a viva voce vote.

Many of these policemen fought in France for democracy. They have always insisted that if they were recruited even a portion of the attention that has since been given strikebreakers, there would be no strike.

The misrepresentation of the policemen's cause, and their repeated refusals have blinded the popular mind to a fair estimate of this situation.

LABOR LAW IMPROVED

Seattle, March 24.—Organized labor induced the state legislature to improve its compensation law, despite strong opposition by federated employers. The waiting period is reduced from seven to three days in all cases. Time awards for single men are raised from $20 to $35, and time awards for married men are raised from $27.50 to $42.50; with one child, $32.50; with two children, $50, and $5 for each additional child. Orphans' children are raised from $10 to $25 per month, with a limit of $75 for each family.

These changes were bitterly contested by federated employers, who have suffered the worst defeat ever sustained by them, reports President Short of the Washington state federation of labor.

"The largest lobby ever sent to Olympia represented the federated industries and contested every inch of ground that was gained," he said.

BIG RAIL PROFITS.

Washington, March 24.—The "hard-luck" for railroads continues. The Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac railroad has accumulated $8,000,000 in surplus the last few years and now wants to dispose of it.

The railroad has $2,185,000 invested in the Richmond, Fredericksburg and other securities and asks the interstate commerce commission for permission to sell the remainder back in the business by issuing stock dividends to the value of $5,417,900.

PROFITS IN SUGAR.

New York, March 24.—The American sugar refining company reports an operating profit for 1922 of $10,063,512. Large losses are reported because high priced men repudiated contracts when the sugar market went against them.

Railroads That Enforce Shop Lockout

With the exception of a few terminal lines, the following is a list of railroads that continue their lockout against shop employes.

The railroads have rejected every peace overture and insist that the employes return as individuals.

These railroads are joined in one of the nation's greatest conspiracies against labor and against the public welfare. For nine months the shop men have waged this contest. The opening of spring finds their morale stronger than ever.

Arizona & Eastern.
Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic.
Atlantic Coast Line.
Bangor & Aroostook.
Bessemer & Lake Erie.
Boston & Maine.
Central of Georgia.
Central Indiana.
Central New England.
Central Railroad of New Jersey.
Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville.
Chicago & Eastern Illinois.
Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.
Colorado & Southern.
Columbus & Gulf.
Cumberland & Pennsylvania.
Delaware & Hudson.
Delaware, Lackawanna & Western.
Denver & Rio Grande Western.
Denver & Salt Lake.
Duluth & Iron Range.
Evansville & Indianapolis.
Florida East Coast.
Fort Worth & Denver City.
Frisco Lines.
Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe.
Gulf, Mobile & Northern.
Houston Texas Central.
Kansas City, Mexico & Orient.
Kansas City Southern.
Lake Erie & Western.
Lehigh Valley.
Long Island.
Louisville & Nashville.
Maine Central.
Missouri, Kansas & Texas.
Missouri & North Arkansas.
Missouri Pacific.
Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis.
New York, New Haven & Hartford.
New York, Ontario & Western.
Nickel Plate.
Norfolk & Western.
Northern Pacific.
Oregon Short Line.
Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co.
Pennsylvania.
Pere Marquette.
Philadelphia & Reading.
Pullman company.
Quincy, Omaha & Kansas City.
Rio Grande Southern.
Rock Island Southern.
Rutland.
St. Joseph & Grand Island.
St. Louis Southwestern.
Santa Fe.
Southern Pacific.
Texas & New Orleans.
Texas & Pacific.
Toledo, Peoria & Western.
Toledo, St. Louis & Western.
Union Pacific.
Virginian.
Wabash.
Western of Alabama.
Western Maryland.
Wheeling & Lake Erie.
Wisconsin Central.

EXPLOITED WORKERS RESIST SUGAR KINGS

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 24.—Agricultural workers in several cities and towns secured higher wages and better conditions by holding strikes of several weeks. The unions asked for $2 a day. They have secured $1.05, made up of the 75 cents that they formerly received.

With sugar selling at $7.50 the sugar interests refused to pay more than $3 a day and make millions of profits, declared Santiago Iglesias, member of the Porto Rican senate and president of the Free Federation of Workingmen, affiliated with the A. F. of L.

In a letter to the island executive, President Iglesias called attention to the refusal of the large employing corporations that have refused to even discuss wages with the workers' representatives.

These corporations have repeatedly violated the law, said the trade unionist. Besides, they have forcibly imported in excess of the amount that corporations may legally hold. "President Iglesias declared that the governor permits this violation, but they use the police force to suppress the right to strike, the right to peacefully assemble and the right to parade. They not only use the police force to hunt strikers down but compel the policemen to work.

"Workers are accorded almost savage treatment by these employers, overseers and police," said Iglesias. "They are compelled to buy their food at certain stores. Porto Rican workers are exploited, their children die for lack of nourishment, and their women are humiliated and corrupted."

PROBE SEVEN-DAY WEEK.

New York, March 24.—Representative church men of all denominations in this country are co-operating in the movement for labor in industry in the United States.

It is proposed that coordinated activities be carried on by different organizations and particularly by well-equipped academic institutions such as the department of economics and sociology in the larger universities and by engineering and agricultural schools.

The following organizations of church men are co-operating in the movement: Commission on the church and social service; federal council of the churches of Christ in America; social action department, national Catholic welfare council; social service commission, central conference of American rabbis.

WM. S. CARTER IS DEAD.

Baltimore, March 24.—William S. Carter, former president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, died in a local hospital, aged 63 years.

Deceased became editor of the Locomotive Firemen's Magazine in 1894. Ten years later he was elected grand secretary and treasurer of the brotherhood, and in 1909 he was elected president. He recently retired from that position. Mr. Carter has been engaged in statistical investigations for the brotherhood, with headquarters in Washington.

MORE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 24.—Rigid enforcement of the compulsory school law has brought 196,795 more children to school in this state than two years ago. The increase means that 4,000 additional school teachers are being employed.

PRICES TO BE UPHELD BY GOVERNMENT AID?

Washington, March 24.—The next congress will accept the principle of price standardization is the striking prediction by Congressman Clyde Kelly of Pennsylvania.

The suggestion that a business man may file a list of his prices with the government, and that these prices would be investigated by a government board is a startling departure from the theory that no one can interfere with a man's business.

This change has been brought about, according to Congressman Kelly, by the United States supreme court's contradictory decisions on prices fixing and the right of business men to set their own prices.

It is now proposed to set up machinery for price standardization to permit any independent manufacturer of standardized articles to file a schedule of his prices with the federal trade commission, which could investigate and determine whether the prices were fair. A retailer handling this article would be required to offer to resell them to the manufacturer for the price he paid for them before he would be permitted to offer them for sale to the public at prices lower than the standard fixed prices.

Under this system manufacturers of well-known articles would have the right to set retail prices and would have the law aid them in stopping retail price cutting by compelling the retailer to first offer to return the goods to the manufacturer for the price he (the retailer) paid for them.

The portion of the bill makes it easy for the manufacturers to wink the other eye when they deplore government interference with business.

COERCE WOMEN WORKERS

Chicago, March 24.—Officers of the Illinois state federation of labor charge that the Illinois Bell telephone company with resorting to unfair methods in its fight against the eight-hour battle.

"Thousands of girl telephone operators are being coerced or misled into writing letters to state senators and representatives against the bill," says the Weekly News Letter, published by the state federation of labor.

"Officials of the company, acting through women occupying executive positions, are insisting that the girl operators sign such letters. Other employers are resorting to similar tactics.

"Organized labor throughout the state is called on by the state federation of labor to immediately begin an active campaign in support of the bill to counteract the employers' tactics."

SUSPEND MINIMUM WAGE.

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, March 24.—The $14 minimum wage for women will be cut, it is learned, as manufacturing, laundries and retailing, has been suspended until September 1. Only the most experienced workers until that time will get $13 a week. The chairman of the minimum wage board says business is bad and that suspension will "permit the employers to get on their feet again."

When the board set the $14 rate it stated that the lowest budget for a working women's living expenses that was presented to it was $14.50 a week.

PLEADS FOR EDUCATION

San Francisco, March 24.—The labor council of this city asks the state legislature to reject Governor Richardson's "economy" plank, which would paralyze the public schools. Organized teachers of this city are leading the fight against this strangling of public education.

NO LABOR SCARCITY IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany, N. Y., March 24.—Reports received from employers "indicate that the sources of labor are not yet exhausted," says Bernard L. Shientag, state industrial commissioner, in his monthly statement on unemployment in New York state factories in February. This reference to unemployment by the state official best acquainted with labor conditions is in contrast to claims by advocates of free immigration.

With the exception of Texas the public has been led to believe that industry is prostrate because of a labor shortage. Now the one man in the state who is in a position to speak with authority on this subject says that while the number of factory workers increased 1 per cent from January to February "the sources of labor are not yet exhausted."

It is stated that the level of factory employment is within 12 per cent of the maximum during the expansion of 1919-1920.

WORKERS ARE SAVED FROM STATE CONTROL

Albany, N. Y., March 24.—By a vote of 50 to nothing the state senate killed the bill which would empower the state to regulate trade unions.

The bill was proposed and urged by Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the Lockwood committee, which has been investigating the housing and related questions.

Organized labor throughout the state made an aggressive and intelligent campaign against the proposal. It was made clear that the bill is of importance to the entire trade-union movement. Its acceptance by the state legislature would mean a new era of legislation based on the theory that there is no difference between a corporation and a group of human beings who are endeavoring to increase their living standards.

Rabid Prejudice Shown By Southern Newspaper

Charlotte, N. C., March 24.—In an attempt to stop the unionization of textile workers in this state, the Gastonia Gazette has established a new name for rabid prejudice and bitter partisanship. The Gazette frantically calls on textile workers to have no dealings with any union organizer who has a foreign name. This would mean a new era of hatred to any circular issued by the union now or in the future, and not to believe any statement the unionists make. In temperate terms Editor Barrett of the Gastonia Gazette demolishes this frenzied plea that the mill owners be left undisturbed in their wage policies. The labor editor indicates that the Gazette must be the only cause of trade unionism by his illogical and unreasoning attack.

PRICES CHANGE SLIGHTLY

Washington, March 24.—Retail food prices decreased 1 per cent to the average family in February, 1923, as compared with January, 1923, reports the United States bureau of labor statistics. During this period 47 articles decreased in price. Strictly fresh eggs, 17 cents per dozen, and not to exceed 1 per cent; chuck roast, plate beef, bacon, leg of lamb, rolled oats, wheat cereal, macaroni, canned peas, prunes, and raisins, 1 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

Fifteen articles decreased in price as follows: Cabbage, 17 per cent; storage eggs, 6 per cent; granulated sugar, 5 per cent; potatoes, 4 per cent; rice, 3 per cent; hens, 3 per cent; cheese, canned corn, canned tomatoes, coffee, bananas, oranges, 1 per cent; oleomargarine, vegetable lard substitutes and tea, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

OPPOSE STATE INSURANCE.

New York, March 24.—To take work-ingmen's compensation insurance out of the hands of private companies and make it a state monopoly is the purpose of a bill introduced in the legislature, according to a resolution adopted by the Civitan club of this city.

The club believes that if business is "taken out of the hands of graft" and the suffering and death of workers, this "would tend to stifle private initiative and enterprise, which is the life blood of American business."

PASS 48-HOUR BILL.

Providence, R. I., March 24.—By a vote of 70 to 21 the house of the state legislature passed the Lavender bill which provides for a 48-hour working week for women and children.

Albany, N. Y., March 24.—Eight hours for women in industry has been approved by the state senate.

SUPERMAN IS WANTED BY FILIBUSTER FOES

Washington, March 24.—If some one will discover a sort of a three-in-one political superman, prophet and seer he will be richly rewarded by notifying the proper parties in Washington.

The kind of a man wanted will show how one can eat his cake and have it at the same time. This search is non-partisan. The political agents of privilege in both parties are mightily interested.

These agents want to get rid of the senate filibuster. The ship subsidy bill would now be law but for this device that can block neat little deals so necessary to reward the faithful and help those contributors to the party treasury.

Under the senate rules debate can be shut off only by three-fourths vote. But a three-fourths vote is hard to corral in these days of political insurrection and humility, and the political agents are throwing out "feelers" on the need for making it easier to run down debate. They want the skids greased the next time legislation similar to the ship subsidy is before the senate and are suggesting that a special session of congress be called to end the filibuster.

But this is a matter said than done. First, there are some senators who insist that the senate be an open forum. Second, in the senate are more than one-fourth of its members are liable any time to wander off the party reservation and join a war dance against monopoly and the privileged few. And a still more alarming prospect is that these cautious senators, when once convened, would refuse to outlaw the filibuster, and proceed to clear legislative decks for action and also change the transportation law and the tariff law.

Even mention this prospect is to cause chills and fever along a certain street lined with banking houses in the lower part of New York city.

So that's why a superman, prophet and seer is wanted. He would show how the thing can be done, be changed by the new senate without "pandering to the mob spirit," as one benevolent and intellectual century plant recently declared.

RAIL MANAGERS WASTE; COULD SAVE MILLIONS

Washington, March 24.—If locomotives were efficiently handled on 40 railroads alone more than $500,000,000 would be saved annually, declared United States Senator Couzens in a public statement.

Railroad executives sent trouble with the next congress and "railway doctors," Senator Couzens said, are preparing to present an absurd remedy in the form of statistics, curved lines and tables.

"The first thing that occurs to a railroad manager when he wants to reduce costs is to cut wages—that does not require any brains," he said. "But why not concentrate on means of cutting costs without reducing wages?

"The inadequacy of transportation facilities is chiefly responsible for high operating costs and consequently for excessive freight rates."

Senator Couzens referred to the common complaint that "while the country seems to be exceedingly prosperous, there is restlessness and uncertainty in every land." He suggested that citizens do not bury their heads in the sand like an ostrich, but that they give serious, open-minded consideration to the solution of difficulties responsible for this unrest.

PROFITS PILE UP

New York, March 24.—Profits continue to be reported by industrial corporations. The American woolen company reports a net profit of $4,618,207 last year, while a profit of $1,385,540 on foreign subsidiaries is reported.

Wilson & company, meat packers, report a profit of $1,132,342 last year.

The General Motors corporation reports a clear profit last year of $48,046,000 on sales of $502,000,000, including interest on debenture and preferred dividends.

DYE HOUSES UNFIT.

Paterson, N. J., March 24.—One-half of the city's dye houses are unsanitary, according to city health officials. The inspectors found dirty toilets and unhealthful conditions. Men used in the dyeing and finishing of silk. The escaping steam in these places often hid the workmen.

RAIL STOCK DIVIDEND.

New York, March 24.—The Louisville & Nashville railroad has declared a stock dividend of $45,000,000, or 62½ per cent. This will increase the outstanding stock from $72,000,000 to $117,000,000.

STOVE MOUNTERS GAIN

Detroit, Mich., March 24.—Officers of the Stove Mounters' International union report continuous gains in wages and working conditions throughout their jurisdiction.

40-HOUR WORK WEEK MEANS LONGER LIFE

New York, March 24.—Organized painters in this district are proving by statistics and by the experience of medical men that the five-day week lengthens the lives of these workers. The painters are maintaining a health bureau. It is equipped with scientific apparatus. It is in charge of recognized authorities on the deadliness of lead. In a booklet issued by the bureau it is shown that the average life of a painter is 49 years, or 12 years less than the general population.

Every material that the painter handles is loaded with poison which reacts in disease. These poisons include lead, turpentine, naphtha and wood alcohol and the deadliest, however, is benzole, which takes but a very small amount to kill a man. The booklet states that the increased use of benzole to 100,000 parts of air, breathed for a few hours, may cause loss of consciousness and that in cheapness, benzole has flooded the market and is being used with more frequency in painting industries.

Another terror to painters is anemia. Hardening of the arteries is an ever present danger. Lead is the painter in early years, making him a wreck when he should be in the prime of manhood.

"The difference between the 40-hour week and the 44-hour week for painters deserves study. The closure of poisonous dusts and fumes by 9 per cent," the booklet states. "These are the dangers which the painter faces in the resistance of the body against disease by providing time for rest."

"HUMANIZING" PLAN IS ANCIENT TRICK

New York, March 24.—The American management association has been formed in this city "to put the human touch in factory work." The scheme has been tried many times without number, but this is a sure go, its promoters say.

Speakers declared it is time to undertake "consideration of the human factor in commerce and industry." No one suggested that the men most vitally interested be consulted. One speaker made this statement that has a world of meaning:

"The leaders of American industry must carry to the rank and file of the workers a clear and simple explanation of the problems of business as they relate to financing, production and marketing."

This would indicate that the so-called "humanizing" movement is to be an effort to keep workers with the bosses' troubles—both real and imaginary. The organization of the association are mostly directors of company "unions" for corporations like the Pennsylvania railroad, Standard Oil of New Jersey, international harvester company, Carnegie steel company and United States rubber company.

DEPORT STRIKEBREAKERS

New York, March 24.—Alien strikebreakers are being deported by order of the Central Railroad of New Jersey are being examined here. Many of them have been deported. They are from the country seamen and then left their vessels. They are a mixture of Indians, Malays, Egyptians and other far-east peoples.

Similar strikebreakers are employed by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad, another corporation that has locked out its shop men. When the strikebreakers were arrested it was found that some of them were afflicted with the dreaded disease trachoma, also tuberculosis and other contagious diseases.

Locked out shop men are pleading that the presence of these diseased strikebreakers be protested by the A. F. of L. and for other reason than self-preservation, as deadly contagious diseases are indiscriminate in selecting victims.

OPPOSE FALSE ECONOMY.

San Francisco, March 24.—The state housing commission is of inestimable aid to immigrants, says William S. Gilis, editor of the Labor Clarion paper, in protesting against Governor Richardson's economy plan which would destroy this commission and other social organizations maintained by the state.

"With the aid of the state housing commission," he says, "immigrants are no longer forced to work in mines and factories under filthy and unsanitary conditions; he is no longer forced to sit by and uncomplainingly acquiesce in the most outrageous evictions which were formerly successfully practiced upon him."

MAY REFUSE TO SELL.

New York, March 24.—It may be illegal for workers to withhold their patronage from a business, but Federal Circuit Judge Rogers rules that a business concern may refuse to sell to retailers if it so desires.

Judge Rogers held, in effect, that a business concern may sell its products to wholesalers at one price and to retailers at a higher price, and that it may even refuse to sell to the latter.